

# Mountain View Cemetery



Mountain View Cemetery is Walla Walla's historical jewel with burials dating back to the mid-1800's. With almost 80 acres, it is one of the oldest municipal cemeteries in the state of Washington. At one time, four separate cemeteries were operated on this site; by the Masonic Lodge, International Order of Odd Fellows, The Catholic Church, and the City of Walla Walla.

Over 40,000 people have been laid to rest in this serene setting which is also home to a wide variety of birds and wildlife which includes deer, fox and racoon. There are over 1,000 trees on the grounds, many of which are over 100 years old. Under the ancient tree canopy are monuments and markers artistically carved by expert stonecutters who crafted many of the oldest headstones which are comprised of marble and granite. Many of the marble statues were carved and imported from Italy.

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## Symbols

■ Anchor	Hope or "at rest".
■ Angel	The agent of God; also the guardian of the dead.
■ Bible	"Book of life".
■ Burning Flame	Eternal life or resurrection
■ Circle	Eternity; incorporated into the Celtic cross.
■ Column	The broken or draped column signifies mortality, the support of life has been broken.
■ Cross	Most common and powerful symbol of Christianity.
■ Dove	The Holy Spirit, peace, or a soul ascending to heaven.
■ Flowers	The rewards of heaven which the deceased now enjoys.
■ Gates	A soul entering heaven. Salvation.
■ Grapevines	Jesus and His protection and/or rewards of heaven.
■ Hands	Clasped mean farewell or meeting in eternity; Pointing upward is hope of heaven; pointing downward God is reaching for the soul. May also be praying or blessing.
■ IHS	"In His Service".
■ IVY	Immortality
■ Lamb	Innocence; often used on a child's grave.
■ Lily	Resurrection, purity.
■ Masonic Compass/ Square Set	Deceased was a Freemason
■ Obelisk	Eternal life, Egyptian sun-worshipping symbol.
■ Open Book	Book of life; Bible; Person's love of literature.
■ Rope	Eternity.
■ Rose	Soul is in perfect state.
■ Sun	Resurrection of the soul.
■ Torch	Upturned, extinguished.
■ Tree	Life, immortality. A broken tree trunk means the same as a broken column.
■ Urn	Draped, symbolizes death.
■ Wheat	The deceased was an elderly person.
■ Cherub	Winged/Sleeping Innocence, spirituality.
■ Woodmen Of the World	Member of the Woodmen of the World fraternal organization.
■ Wreath	Spiritual victory.

